

From: Jim Hartneady
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/19/01 10:52am
Subject: MicroSoft Settlement

These are my comments regarding your settlement. I offer them as a user in a business environment :

- * You have provided no punishment, therefore, no reason for MS to change its behavior. You have only introduced inconvenience which MS will ignore as it has in the past. The EU will be harsher on them than this settlement.
- * There is no compensation for the companies that were injured or eliminated by MS tying their product to the OS.
- * The oversight panel has no authority to stop/correct improper behavior.
- * Even among very strong MS supporters there is a feeling that DOJ let them down and that MS will continue to provide mediocre products to the Government, private industry and home use. Non MS supporters are much less kind, both to MS and to DOJ. When there is no competition there is no reason to get better than marginally adequate. As a continuing monopoly this settlement means we get no relief. It only would have improved if the operating system was split away from the other products in a separate company. The OS would continue to be what ever it wants but the MS applications would have had to compete on merit.

Sorry you couldn't do better.

Jim Hartneady